Moral theories in bioethical contexts

Health & Medicine



These insights outline key variations that define bioethics in Africa, and the underlying issues in comparison to the Western world. Particularly, the addressed bioethical issues are undoubtedly critical to the welfare of both Western and sub-Saharan African countries. Focus on medical treatment, informed consent, care standards, and animal experimentation denote the need to integrate African perspectives into the already existent utilitarianism and Kantianism approaches to bioethics. In essence, differences in moral values both in the West and in sub-Saharan Africa ought to be accounted for as far as bioethical practices are concerned.

In conclusion, Thaddeus Metz's exploration of an African moral theory of bioethics is commendable. Amid regional and international diversity, the ultimate biomedical goal is to promote appropriate and relevant moral practices around the world. In this respect, the underlying variations in the moral explanation of medical treatment, informed consent, care standards, and animal experimentation should serve as a uniting factor in the progressive growth and development of biomedical sciences. Moreover, moral theories in bioethical contexts ought to reflect diverse global perspectives.